

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 AF-06 /067 W  
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R 011503Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6175

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: VISIT OF FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES

1. FRENCH FONMIN JEAN SAUVAGNARGUES CONCLUDED THREE-DAY VISIT TO PORTUGAL FEB 28. SAUVAGNARGUES MET WITH PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES, PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO, FONMIN ANTUNES, AND SOCIALIST LEADER MARIO SOARES DURING HIS STAY. AT FEB 27 PRESS CONFERENCE, SAUVAGNARGUES NOTED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED POLITICAL SITUATIONS IN PORTUGAL AND AFRICA, STATUS OF PORTUGUESE EMIGRANTS IN FRANCE, AND CULTURAL COOPERATION. HE SAID THAT INVITATION FOR PRESIDENT GISCARD TO VISIT PORTUGAL WAS ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE, BUT NOTED THAT GISCARD'S SCHEDULE WAS VERY FULL FOR NEXT MONTH. ASKED AT PRESS CONFERENCE ABOUT STATUS OF GEN SPINOLA TO FRANCE, SAUVAGNARGUES REPLIED THAT FRANCE GRANTS ASYLUM, BUT REQUIRES THAT THE INDIVIDUAL REFRAIN FROM POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND POSITIONS HOSTILE TO HIS NATIVE COUNTRY.

2. AT FEB 26 DINNER IN SAUVAGNARGUES'S HONOR, ANTUNES STRESSED FRENCH AND PORTUGUESE COMMON BONDS AS MEMBERS OF ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. HE NOTED THAT PORTUGAL'S ROLE IN NATO WAS NEVER IN QUESTION, AND SAID THAT PORTUGAL FAVORED A STRONG AND UNITED EUROPE WHICH WOULD HELP  
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BALANCE THE TWO SUPERPOWERS. WITH RESPECT TO PORTUGAL'S

DECOLONIZED TERRITORIES, SAUVAGNARGUES EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SPIRIT OF MODERATION WOULD PREVAIL AND FOREIGN INTERVENTION CEASE SO THAT OUTCOME WOULD HAVE STABILIZING EFFECT IN AFRICA. HE EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING FOR PORTUGAL'S POLICY OF OPENING TO "THIRD WORLD" WHILE REMAINING FAITHFUL TO ALLIANCES AND STRENGTHENING TIES IN EUROPE.

3. COMMENT: FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOLD ME THAT NOTHING SIGNIFICANT WAS EXPECTED TO COME OUT OF SAUVAGNARGUES'S VISIT. HOWEVER, FONMIN'S VISIT IS ANOTHER IN SERIES OF INCREASING CONTACTS BETWEEN FRENCH AND PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENTS. RELATIONS WITH GOF HAVE BEEN WARMING AS THE PORTUGUESE SOCIALISTS SHOW MORE DISTANCE BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND MITTERAND. CARLUCCI

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL ASYLUM, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, EMIGRANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976LISBON01318  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760078-0056  
**From:** LISBON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t197603108/aaaadrjt.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES  
**TAGS:** PINT, PO, FR, (SAUVAGNARGUES, JEAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006